

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MANAMA 00074 241031Z

21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 W

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P 240807Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY 2726

UNCLAS MANAMA 074

NEA/EX FOR CONNOLLY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : AFSP, BA

SUBJ : CHANCERY IN MANAMA

1. WE ARE HALF ENSCONSED IN OUR NEW CHANCERY. BARRING NEW COMPLICATIONS DEVISED BY THE MOST FECKLESS BUNCH OF CONTRACTORS THIS SIDE OF THE MASANDOM PENINSULA, WE EXPECT TO HAVE ALL SECTIONS MOVED NOT LATER THAN MID-FEBRUARY. THE MOVING HAS BEEN ABOUT AS MUCH FUN AS MOVES ALWAYS ARE, AND AS YOU KNOW WE HAVE SOME BUDGET AND FURNITURE PROBLEMS TO WORK OUT. BUT IS HAS HAPPENED* AND A LONG, PAINFUL EPISODE FOR EMBASSY MANAMA AND NEA/EX IS BEHIND US.

2. WHAT WE HOW HAVE IS AN ADEQUATE BUT NOT EXTRAVAGANT OR EXPENSIVE OFFICE SPACE WHICH WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO LIVE IN FOR A LONG TIME. WE ALSO HAVE A PROPER PHYSICAL PRESENCE, RESPECTABLE WITHOUT BEING OSTENTATIOUS, AND THIS HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN PERFORMING OUR MISSION HERE ADEQUATELY. IN ADDITION, THE PLACE LOOKS A LOT BETTER THAN EITHER YOU OR I THOUGHT POSSIBLE; IN FACT, IT LOOKS GREAT.

3. AMERICANS AND FRIENDS OF AMERICA HERE ARE BEGINNING TO REGISTER THEIR PRIDE IN THE NEW EMBASSY. I AM KEENLY AWARE OF HOW MUCH NEA/EX, AND YOU PERSONALLY, HAVE MADE THIS POSSIBLE. IN THANKING YOU ALL, I HOPE YOU WILL BE AS PROUD OF THIS NEW CHANCERY AS I AM.

4. AS YOU KNOW, RON MAIN HAS BORNE THE MAJOR BURDEN OF THIS
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VENTURE; HE HAS DONE SO WELL AND TIRELESSLY. IN RECENT DAYS

SEABEE BRUCE WELLMAN FROM KUWAIT HAS BEEN OF GREAT ASSISTANCE TO US; I HAVE THANKED FRANK MAU DIRECTLY BUT THOUGHT YOU SHOULD ALSO KNOW THIS. BUT THE SPECIAL "STAR" OF THIS SHOW IN MANY WAYS WAS DICK BROADWAY. IF YOU CAN SEE YOUR WAY CLEAR TO TDY HIM BACK FOR SEVERAL DAYS IN MID-FEBRUARY TO INSPECT THE RENOVATION PRIOR TO FINAL ACCEPTANCE, I WOULD BE GRATEFUL.

5. DICK USHER, NOW RETIRED, WAS, AS CHIEF INSPECTOR HERE IN THE 1974 FOREIGN SERVICE INSPECTION, ESPECIALLY CONCERNED AND HELPFUL ABOUT OUR PROBLEM OF FINDING A DECENT CHANCERY PREMISES. COULD YOU SEND ME HIS ADDRESS SO THAT I MIGHT WRITE HIM?

6. TELL VIRGINIA SCHAFER SHE IS MORE THAN WELCOME HERE -- SO LONG AS SHE KEEPS ANY CRITICISMS OF THE NEW CHANCERY TO HERSELF UNTIL SHE GETS OUT OF TOWN.

7. AGAIN, MANY THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP.

TWINAM

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